(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India is one of the littoral countries, which can make the extended claims on the outer continental margins; and

(d) if so, whether Government are preparing necessary papers and presenting them before the U.N. Commissison on the Limits of Continental Shelf?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the provisions of United Nations Convention on law of the Sea, outer limits of the Continental Shelf extending beyond 200 nautical miles are required to be established using the baselines, 2500 meter isobath, foot of the continental slope and thickness of sedimentary rocks.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to make claims on Continental Shelf before the Commission on the Limits of Continental Shelf upon acquisition and analysis of Data.

Recommendations of Railway Safety Review Committee

1146. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as good as five Committees on Railway safety have submitted reports to Government, so far;

(b) if so, what were their main recommendations; and

(c) how many of them have been implemented, giving the details in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) During the last four decades, four Accidents Inquiry Committees *viz.* Railway Accidents Committee—1962 (Kunzru Committee), Railway Accidents Inquiry Committee—1968 (Wanchoo Committee), Railway Accidents Enquiry Committee—1978 (Sikri Committee) and Railway Safety Review Committee—1998 (Khanna Committee) have been set up to suggest measures to improve rail safety on Indian Railways. These Committees made 377, 531, 528 and 278 recommendations respectively, on various aspects of Railway safety. These Committees have made a large number of recommendation on wide spectrum of subjects such as investment planning and policies, personnel management, track and bridges, rolling stock, signalling and telecommunication, disaster management, safety organisation and other issues related to Commission of Railway Safety and Trade Unions etc.

Of the recommendations made by Kunzru, Wanchoo and Sikri committees, 359, 499 and 484 recommendations respectively, were implemented. As regards Khanna Committee, out of 278 recommendations, made in both the parts of the report, 214 recommendations have already been accepted, fully or partially, whereas 28 have not been accepted. 36 recommendations are under the scrutiny of the Ministry of Railways. 40 of the accepted recommendations have been implemented. Other accepted recommendations are at various stages of implementation.

Reorganisation of Railway Zones

1147. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether reorganisation of Railway Zones has been announced by Government;

(b) whether the former Chairman of Railway Board and Railway Officers' Federation/Associations have urged Government to reconsider reorganisation of Railway Zones; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to reconsider their decisison?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Representations from former Chairman of Railway Board, Federation of Railway Officers' Association and others have been received.

(c) The Government does not agree with their views.

Durg-Lucknow Train

1148. SHRI JHUMUKLAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce passenger train from Durg to Lucknow via Katni-Manikpur-Chitrakut-Kanpur-Lucknow route, as per the demand in this regard;

(b) if so, the action taken in this direction;

(c) whether the train on he said route would be started during the current financial year, keeping in view the passenger facilities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?